MAY 1 6 2005

PATENT

Atty. Dkt. No. BEN02 P-356

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner

Gregory A. Blankenship

Art Unit

3612

Applicants

Joseph C. Kollaritsch et al

Serial No.

10/779,967

Filed

February 17, 2004

Confirmation:

9113

Atty. Dkt.

BEN02 P-356

For

ENERGY ABSORPTION IMPACT SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR

VEHICLE BUMPERS AND THE LIKE

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

REPLY TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

In response to the Office action dated March 21, 2005, Applicants traverse the election of species requirement, and provisionally elect "Species A" as shown in Figs. 1-12 and 15-18.

REMARKS:

Reconsideration of the species election requirement is requested.

Applicants request a one month extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office action, and a separate petition to this effect is enclosed.

The Examiner entered an election of species requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121 on the grounds that the application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

SPECIES	<u>FIGURES</u>
Α	1-12
В	13-18